AN ACCOUNT OF THE SCOTS SOCIETY IN NORWICH, IN GREAT BRITAIN,

Founded in 1775.

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BRITISH MUSEUM

AN ACCOUNT OF THE SCOTS SOCIETY in NORWICH,

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SEVERAL natives of North Britain, ſettled in and near the city of Norwich, were wont to aſſemble every year on the 30th of November, being the feſtival of St. Andrew, the tutelar ſaint of Scotland, dine or ſup together in a friendly manner, and ſpend the day or evening with ſome degree of feſtivity. Two brothers in trade were the principal promoters and ſupporters of this meeting. After their death, a nephew, in the ſame buſineſs, kept up the cuſtom, with great credit and good humour.

At one of theſe meetings, in 1774, the company was large, and more than uſual cheerful; towards the cloſe of the evening, the reckoning being collected, an overplus of three ſhillings and ſixpence was found in the hands of the perſon who had undertaken the management of the bill, who naturally aſked, What ſhall we do with this? The company looked at each other for ſome time in ſilence; the toaſt-maſter at laſt ſaid, that he had, with great pleaſure, obſerved more cheerfulneſs and mirth at this meeting than at any he had before attended, and that every body ſeemed ſatisfied, appeared by over payment of the reckoning; that although the ſum was ſmall, it might be put to a good uſe. The attention of the company being excited, one or two aſked, what uſe? The propoſer replied, that while we were, as we ought to be, very thankful for the means we had of ſo much reaſonable enjoyment, a reflection often broke in upon him on ſuch occaſions, which rather damped the pleaſure. What is that, Sir? was the cry; he anſwered, the recollection that while he was feaſting, numbers equally deſerving were faſting. That this was often the caſe of thoſe natives of Scotland, who left their native country in narrow circumſtances, and did not meet with encouragement, or falling ſick ſoon after their arrival in England, in ſuch caſe ſuffered great diſtreſs, and that the more pitiable, by having

having no pariſh ſettlement, nobody was obliged to relieve them. Qu. What good will three ſhillings and ſixpence do? A. Suppoſe we make it a little more?—That is ſpeaking to the purpoſe.—Ten ſhillings more were immediately collected, and put into Mr. Dalrymple's hands, to relieve any poor Scotſman, who might apply, and appear to want the whole, or any part of it. It happened that no proper object of charity appeared, in the courſe of the enſuing year, to claim any part of this fund of thirteen ſhillings and ſixpence. At the annual meeting of 1775, the fund amounted to upwards of 3l.

Upon this increaſe, it was propoſed and agreed, that this annual meeting of North Britons ſhould be formed into a ſociety, under the name of THE SCOTS SOCIETY IN NORWICH; that proper ſteps ſhould be taken to give it a regular form, and render it uſeful to the purpoſe firſt intended. In the courſe of this year, a ſet of articles were prepared, read, and approved of at the annual meeting, November 30, 1776; by the 4th article of which it was enacted, that a preſident and ſteward ſhould be elected yearly by the members preſent at the annual meeting; in conſequence of which regulation, two perſons, judged the moſt proper for the purpoſe, were elected into thoſe offices. Natives of England, or others, were declared admiſſible, as honorary members, by the 5th article; and the 6th article ran in the

following terms: "That the general purpoſe of this ſociety is, in the firſt place, to continue, promote, and cultivate that love, harmony, friendſhip, and chriſtian charity, which has ever been the diſtinguiſhing character of the Scotiſh nation, is the duty of every chriſtian, and more particularly of the ſubjects of Great Britain; ſecondly, to relieve and aſſiſt ſuch natives of Scotland, as ſhall hereafter happen through unavoidable misfortunes, or accidents, to fall into diſtreſs in the city of Norwich, or county of Norfolk, and are not entitled to relief by the laws of England."

At this meeting the fund of the ſociety amounted to the ſum of 61. 7s. 9d. the produce of three annual meetings.

From the ſlow progreſs of this ſociety, it too plainly appeared, that there was little probability of its even being able, in the preſent contracted ſtate, to anſwer any valuable purpoſe, or render any eſſential ſervice to ſuch as might ſtand in need of its aſſiſtance; for which reaſon, at a meeting held December 30, 1776, it was agreed that a circular letter ſhould be ſent to every native of Scotland in Norfolk, of ſuch rank or ſuppoſed fortune as might enable them to aſſiſt in carrying on this charitable deſign, of which letter the following is a copy:

"SIR,

" SIR,

" Purſuant to an order made at the laſt quar-
" terly meeting of the Scots Society, lately eſta-
" bliſhed in this city, we take the liberty to
" ſend you herewith a copy of the regulations
" agreed upon at its firſt inſtitution.

" Should the motives for the forming of this
" ſociety meet with your approbation, we hope
" that you will be pleaſed to encourage the de-
" ſign as much as lies in your power, and ho-
" nour its meetings with your preſence, when-
" ever it ſuits your conveniency.

" Senſible of the unavoidable defects of all
" new inſtitutions, the ſociety will be much
" obliged to thoſe who ſhall favour it with any
" friendly hints, to promote its views and im-
" prove its plan; which will be reſpectfully con-
" ſidered, and attended to at the enſuing quar-
" terly and annual meetings.

" We are, with due reſpect,

" SIR,

" Your moſt obedient, and

" Moſt humble ſervants,

" Preſident,

Feb. 27, 1777.

" Steward.

" P. S. Letters and benefactions intended for
" the uſe of the Scots Society, are requeſted to
" be ſent to Mr. John Dalrymple, Norwich."

Several

Several copies of this letter were printed, and with the articles therein mentioned, ſent to moſt of the natives of Scotland reſiding in Norfolk.

From three of thoſe only the ſociety received any benefit. From a few were ſent plauſible objections to the practicability of the plan, or prophetic of the bad conſequences thereof; but the greater part returned no anſwer.

At an extraordinary meeting held February 26, 1777, the particular days for quarterly meetings for the current year were appointed, which has been ſince done at the annual meetings.

Notwithſtanding the reaſons this infant ſociety had to be diſcouraged at the reception of its circular letter, it perſevered in the proſecution of its deſign.

At a quarterly meeting, March 31, this year, it was propoſed that a letter ſhould be written to the Right Hon. the Earl of Roſebery, who has an eſtate near Norwich, and was then at his eſtate in Scotland, of which the following is a copy:

" To the Right Hon. the Earl of Roſebery, at
" his ſeat near Edinburgh.

" My Lord,

" In conſequence of an order made at the laſt " meeting of the Scots Society in this city, we " take the liberty to incloſe a copy of its regu- ' lations for your Lordſhip's inſpection.

" The

" The motives and views of this late inſti-
" tution being ſet forth in the 6th article, we
" forbear to trouble your Lordſhip with any
" farther explanation, until we have the honour
" to receive your commands.

" Should your Lordſhip be pleaſed to patro-
" niſe, aſſiſt, or encourage this infant ſociety,
" we ſhall eſteem it a very great honour, and
" hope the objects of its charity may thereby
" receive conſiderable benefit.

" We are, with the greateſt reſpect,
" My Lord,
" Your, &c."

Norwich, Aug. 27, 1777.

This letter, ſigned by the preſident and ſtew-
ard, was ſent as directed; to which his Lordſhip
was pleaſed to ſend the following anſwer.

" Barnbougle Caſtle, Sept. 29, 1777.

" Gentlemen,

" I received the letter you did me the favour
" to write me, reſpecting the Scots Society in
" Norwich, propoſals for which you incloſed as
" publiſhed November 30, 1776.

" The motives and views of that inſtitution,
" as ſet forth in the 6th article, are of ſo liberal
" and extenſive a nature, as do honour to its
" founders; and will aſſuredly induce me to do
" every thing in my power, to aſſiſt and befriend
" ſo charitable an undertaking. As ſoon as

" you

" you point out to me, wherein I can be of ſer-
" vice, either in perſon or otherwiſe, I will en-
" deavour to obey your commands: In the
" mean time I ſhall give order to my ſteward to
" pay my ſubſcription, in caſe it is wanted, be-
" fore I come into Norfolk.

" I am, Gentlemen,
" Your moſt obedient, and
" Moſt humble ſervant,
" ROSEBERY.

" To the Preſident and Steward
" of the Scots Society in
" Norwich."

This letter was read to the annual meeting, and gave univerſal ſatisfaction.

The ſociety, thus encouraged, immediately formed the reſolution to improve and extend its plan; a new ſet of articles were drawn out for that purpoſe, by which the natives of all other nations, as well as thoſe of Scotland, were rendered admiſſible into the ſociety. To render this meaſure effectual, the firſt draught of the new articles was ſhewn to a few individuals, who were thought moſt likely to favour the inſtitution, in particular to the late Mr. John Gurney of Norwich, whoſe character is above all praiſe.

This truly good and charitable man, immediately offered to become a benefactor to the ſociety; and having alſo recommended it to his nephew,

phew, Mr. Bartlet Gurney, they were both admitted as honorary members at the enſuing annual meeting on the 30th of November, 1777.

At this annual meeting twenty-one members, all natives of Scotland, attended, when the proceedings of the foregoing year were laid before the ſociety.

The fund of the ſociety, which at the laſt annual meeting was only 6l. 7s. 9d. had in the courſe of this year increaſed to 8l. 4s. 11d. after the payment of all expences, to which 10l. 11s. 6d. collected at the preſent meeting, being added, formed a capital of 18l. 16s. 5d. to which a ſtill greater ſum was added in the courſe of the following year, as will appear hereafter.

The ſociety now looking upon its eſtabliſhment as next to certain, began to form a more regular and diſtinct method of managing its buſineſs.

By the new articles, the ſociety was to conſiſt of a governor, preſident, members and honorary members.

It is natural to ſuppoſe, that the Right Hon. the Earl of Roſebery ſhould be offered the firſt place in a ſociety, whoſe principles he had ſo generouſly applauded, and whoſe intereſts he had ſo warmly eſpouſed; his Lordſhip was accordingly unanimouſly elected Governor of the Scots Society in Norwich; Mr. John Gurney, Mr. Bartlett Gurney, and Mr. Thomas Tilbury, were admitted honorary members.

The ſame preſident and ſteward being continued in their reſpective offices, the former for the firſt time addreſſed the ſociety in form, before he quitted the chair.

In this addreſs he recapitulated the progreſs of the ſociety, during the preceding year, explained the nature, propriety and neceſſity of the inſtitution, its views, and preſent agreeable proſpect, and concluded with earneſtly recommending brotherly love, unanimity, charity, humility, and a ſteady purſuit of the laudable and original purpoſes of this riſing ſociety.

The preſident and ſteward were ordered to wait upon the new elected governor of the ſociety, on his return to Norfolk, to inform his lordſhip of its proceedings, and receive his commands.

A ſeal was preſented to the ſociety at this meeting, repreſenting a St. Andrew's croſs, the motto, "Love ye Strangers."

The buſineſs of the evening concluded with the following order, which has ſince been continued annually.

"Ordered, That the preſident and ſteward take ſuch ſteps and meaſures, from time to time, as they ſhall judge neceſſary or convenient, to promote the intereſts of the ſociety, between its meetings, at which they are to be examined, approved or rejected."

In

In the increaſing ſtate of the ſociety's fund, it appeared ſomewhat remarkable, that no perſon had applied for relief, or appeared to ſtand in need of it.

The charity of the ſociety was, in the new articles, ſtill confined to the natives of North Britain; but under the article of that limitation a note was inſerted, importing, That as ſoon as the fund would permit, this charity ſhould extend to the natives of other nations, in the like circumſtances.

In the courſe of the year 1778, the ſociety proceeded gradually in the improvement of its plan.

That the objects of this charity might be more effectually and expeditiouſly relieved, it was thought proper to appoint agents in different parts for that purpoſe, inſtructions were drawn out for their direction, laid before the ſecond quarterly meeting the 28th of March, and referred to further conſideration.

Soon after this, the Earl of Roſebery arriving at his ſeat of Bixley Hall, near Norwich, the preſident and ſteward wrote the following letter to his lordſhip:

My Lord,

"We take the liberty to incloſe a copy of the minutes made at the laſt annual meeting of the Scots Society in Norwich, as alſo two copies of the

the articles then agreed upon, for the current year. Agreeable to the order then made, we purpoſe to do ourſelves the honour of waiting upon your lordſhip on Monday next, if it is not inconvenient to your lordſhip. We are, &c.

Norwich, April 18, 1778.

To this letter his Lordſhip was pleaſed to return the following anſwer:

"Lord Roſebery's compliments to Dr. Murray and Mr. Dalrymple, will be glad to ſee them to-morrow, or any other day that is agreeable or convenient to them.

"Bixley-Hall, Sunday, Apr. 19, 1778."

The preſident and ſteward waited upon the Earl of Roſebery according to appointment.

His lordſhip received them with great politeneſs and condeſcenſion, approved much of the inſtitution, rules and proceedings of the ſociety, accepted of the office of governor, and ſaid, as he had obſerved that it was neceſſary, by the rules of the ſociety ſent to him, that a capital of 20l. ſhould be eſtabliſhed, before any money could be diſburſed to objects of relief, he would make the ſociety a preſent of that ſum to enable it immediately to carry ſo charitable a plan into execution. His lordſhip was alſo pleaſed to repeat, that he would aſſiſt the ſociety by attendance or otherwiſe, to the utmoſt of his power.

The

The preſident and ſteward returning to Norwich with the above donation and tidings, an univerſal joy was diffuſed among the members of the ſociety. A ſpecial meeting was ſoon after called, at which the particulars of the interview with the Earl of Roſebery were related. The inſtructions for agents reviſed, corrected and improved by the noble governor, were ordered to be again examined, at the enſuing quarterly meeting, in order for publication.

The preſident on this occaſion informed the ſociety, that he had been applied to in behalf of Alexander Geddes, who being ill of a fever, was in great diſtreſs for want of food and neceſſaries, to procure which the ſociety ordered an immediate ſum, and a weekly allowance to be continued, ſo long as ſhould be needful.

At this meeting ſeveral gentlemen were propoſed, and ſome admitted into the ſociety.

The third quarterly meeting, June 27, was larger than uſual; at which the ſeveral gentlemen formerly propoſed were admitted, two in particular who were inhabitants in London.—The inſtructions for the agents, formerly mentioned, were again read, approved of, ordered to be printed, and diſtributed among the agents of the ſociety.

No material buſineſs occurred at the fourth quarterly and previous meetings, except a demand upon the ſociety for the expences of bury-

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ing two natives of Scotland, who had died lately in Norwich, which were paid by the ſociety, and the giving relief to two or three objects, who appeared to have a legal claim to its charity.

At the fourth annual meeting, November 30, 1778, from an exact ſtate of the affairs drawn up for the purpoſe, it appeared,

1. That the ſtock of the Scots ſociety in Norwich at the laſt annual meeting was - - £. 17 4 11

2. That the ſum received ſince that time is - - - 31 8 1½

48 13 0½

3. That the expences of the current year are - - - 12 19 2

4. That the balance in the ſteward's hands due to the ſociety is £. 35 13 10½

5. That five objects of charity, natives of North Britain, and not belonging to, or entitled to aſſiſtance from any pariſh in England, have been relieved; two whereof have died and been buried at the expence of the ſociety.

6. That two objects ſtill continue in the courſe of relief.

This meeting was the moſt numerous and the moſt reſpectable of any annual meeting hitherto held, the company attentive and cheerful, the buſineſs of the day went on with the moſt regularity, and the ſubſcription was the largeſt.

The

The thanks of the ſociety were unanimouſly voted to the Earl of Roſebery, again elected governor, for his liberal donation; alſo to the preſident and ſteward, for their good conduct and aſſiduity.

The firſt great difficulty, that of eſtabliſhing a fund, to enable the ſociety to carry its plan into execution, being overcome, and the uſefulneſs thereof being fully evinced, a larger field of charity was opened to view, in a motion to extend the plan of the Scots ſociety, which was afterwards publiſhed in the following form.

Annual Meeting of the Scots Society in Norwich, Nov. 30, 1778.

"The Scots ſociety in Norwich, actuated by the original motives and principles of its inſtitution, and finding its fund already increaſed beyond expectation, by the generoſity of its governor, and the liberality of its members and aſſociates:

"Reſolve,

"That as ſoon as the capital fund of the ſociety, ſhall amount to the ſum of one hundred pounds and upwards, with the proſpect of increaſe, the ſociety may, and ſhall extend its charity to all the ſubjects of Great-Britain, and the natives of every foreign nation reſiding in England, when in diſtreſs, and not entitled to relief

by the laws thereof, in the ſame manner, and under the ſame regulations, as has been heretofore granted to the natives of Scotland."

Although this reſolution was unanimouſly agreed to, and warmly commended, yet its effect was at that time deemed improbable, for the balance of laſt year, in favour of the ſociety, being —— £. 35 13 7½

And the ſubſcription of the preſent meeting - - - 17 6 4½

Making only - 53 0 0

Without any immediate proſpect of conſiderable increaſe.

At this meeting ſome alterations took place in the ſociety, ſuch as,

1. The term honorary member, was changed to that of aſſociate.

2. That the funeral charges of ſuch perſons as die while receiving relief from the ſociety, ſhall not exceed 1l. 11s. 6d.

3. That the effects of ſuch perſons as ſhall die in a courſe of relief from the ſociety, and who have no lawful heirs to claim them upon the ſpot, ſhall be ſold, the produce to reimburſe the expence of the ſociety, and the overplus, if any, to be remitted to the heirs at law or by will, if ſuch can be found, if neither of theſe appear, to be added to the fund of the ſociety.

A chaplain

A chaplain was alſo elected for the ſociety at this meeting.

At the firſt quarterly meeting of the ſociety in 1779, it was ordered that a letter, of which the following is a copy, ſhould be ſent to the Right Hon. the Earl of Roſebery, ſigned by the preſident and ſteward.

" My Lord,

" The inſtructions for the Agents of the Scots Society in Norwich, which your Lordſhip was pleaſed to correct, being unanimouſly approved of and printed, we take the liberty to incloſe two copies for your uſe.

" We herewith tranſmit to your Lordſhip, as ordered, an extract of the minutes of the laſt annual meeting, which we hope will meet with your approbation, and that we ſhall again have the honour of your Lordſhip's aſſent to our re-election of governor.

" We flatter ourſelves alſo, that the reſolution for extending the charity of the ſociety, made at this meeting, will be the more agreeable to your Lordſhip, as you were pleaſed to approve of the original hint given of it, in the laſt articles of the ſociety.

" With the greateſt reſpect, and warmeſt gratitude, we are, &c."

At the ſecond quarterly meeting, March 24, ſome new members and aſſociates were admitted, who paid their ſubſcriptions, and ſome benefactions were received.

At the third quarterly meeting, the ſociety being informed that the laſt impreſſion of the ſociety's articles were nearly expended, it was ordered that the former articles ſhould be reviſed, and ſuited to the preſent ſtate and future views of the ſociety.

While this order was carrying into execution, intelligence was received, that the Earl of Roſebery was arrived at his ſeat at Bixley; upon which the preſident and ſteward ſent a complimentary card to his Lordſhip, to know when it would be agreeable to be waited upon; and ſome time after, a draft of new articles being written, was ſent for his Lordſhip's peruſal, to which the following anſwer was returned, dated Bixley-Hall, July 24, 1779.

"Gentlemen,

"I had the pleaſure of receiving a card from you ſome time ago, and yeſterday another, incloſing the Rules intended for the Scots ſociety in Norwich, by which I perceive you are reſolved to extend your charity to all nations, as ſoon as your capital amounts to 100l. of which you have already 53l. This I ſo highly approve of, not only from the liberality of the idea, but

from

from being by nature and principle, an enemy to all national prejudices and partiality, that I am determined, that you ſhall not be a moment longer, without the power of doing that good you intend: I therefore take the liberty of ſending 50l. by the bearer, for the uſe above-mentioned, and of the ſociety in general, of which I beg your acceptance, from, Gentlemen, your moſt obliged and moſt humble ſervant,

ROSEBERY."

This benefaction, given with ſo much generoſity and politeneſs, could not fail of exciting proper ſentiments of eſteem, reſpect, and gratitude, in the minds of the receivers, in whoſe name the preſident and ſteward wrote, on the 26th of July, the following letter to his Lordſhip.

" My Lord,

" We beg leave to return your Lordſhip our moſt ſincere thanks for your very obliging letter of the 24th inſtant, and the bill of 50l. for the uſe of the Scots ſociety in Norwich, which has been accepted, and delivered to our banker for payment.

" We purpoſe to ſummon an extraordinary meeting of the ſociety next week, to inform it of your Lordſhip's noble and generous benefaction, and to conſider what may be the moſt

proper and effectual method, of carrying into execution its benevolent and extenſive purpoſes, which your Lordſhip has now enabled us to attempt.

" As ſoon as the ſociety has come to a determination how to proceed, we ſhall do ourſelves the honour of communicating to your Lordſhip the particulars of its reſolutions, and be happy to receive your Lordſhip's approbation and commands.

" We are, in the name of the ſociety, &c."

An extraordinary meeting was accordingly ſummoned, and met Auguſt 2, 1779, to which the Preſident communicated the noble Governor's letter, and the anſwer to it, obſerved that the ſociety's capital being raiſed above the ſum, which the ſociety at the laſt annual meeting deemed ſufficient, to enable it to extend its charity to the natives of all nations entitled to it; it was now neceſſary to conſider of, and determine, what may be the moſt proper and effectual method to carry this deſign into execution. The firſt ſtep thought proper to be taken by the ſociety, was to lay the plan of its charity before the public, or at leaſt ſo much of it as to enable thoſe concerned, to judge ſufficiently of it, to apply for relief; for which purpoſe, the following draft of an advertiſement was preſented to the ſociety, approved of, and ordered to be inſerted in the Norwich papers.

" Whereas

"Whereas the natives of that part of Great Britain called Scotland, thoſe of Ireland, America, and all foreign nations, reſiding in England, who have not obtained pariſh ſettlements therein, are excluded from relief in caſes of ſickneſs or want, and many have been, and may hereafter be expoſed to great difficulties and danger on that account: To remedy this defect in ſome meaſure, a ſociety has been lately formed in Norwich, and ſupported by voluntary ſubſcription, for the natives of Scotland only, many of whom have been effectually relieved by it, when in great diſtreſs.

"This ſociety having lately received a conſiderable benefaction, and hoping to meet with further encouragement from the benevolent and humane, hath reſolved to extend its charity to the natives of all other nations, reſiding in England, who may need relief, and are not entitled to it by law; if it ſhall appear that their diſtreſs is occaſioned by ſickneſs, or ſome other unavoidable misfortune."

The following draft of a letter to the ſeveral agents of the ſociety, was alſo approved of and ſent, ſigned by the clerk.

"SIR,

"By an order made at an extraordinary meeting of the Scots Society in Norwich, the 2d inſt.

I am directed to inform you, that the ſtock of the ſociety is now raiſed above 100l. by a late benefaction from its Governor, the Right Hon. the Earl of Roſebery. Agreeable to the reſolution made at the laſt annual meeting, the ſociety intends, immediately to extend its charity to all the ſubjects of Great Britain, and the natives of every foreign nation, reſiding in England, who may fall into diſtreſs by ſickneſs, or other unavoidable misfortune, and are not entitled to it by law; in the ſame manner as hath been granted to thoſe of Scotland for ſome time paſt.

"As ſoon as proper inſtructions and forms of keeping accounts are prepared, they will be ſent to you; in the mean time, you will pleaſe to give public notice of this improvement of the ſociety's plan, and receive ſuch ſubſcriptions and benefactions, as ſhall be offered to you, for the uſe of the ſociety, that it may be better enabled to carry the charitable deſigns thereof into execution. I am, &c."

Norwich, Aug. 12, 1779.

At the fourth quarterly meeting a ſeal was preſented to the ſociety from Mr. Edward Cairns, a member and agent at Birmingham, repreſenting St. Andrew upon the croſs, the motto, *Love ye the Stranger*, being the words of Moſes to the Iſraelites, previous to their going into the promiſed land.

At

At this meeting it was alſo ordered, that a copy of its proceedings ſhould be tranſmitted to the Governor, with a letter from the Preſident and Steward, of which the following is the copy, read at the enſuing quarterly meeting.

"My LORD,

"Agreeable to the deſign mentioned in the laſt letter, which we did ourſelves the honour of writing to your Lordſhip, an extraordinary meeting of the Scots Society was ſummoned, a copy of the proceedings of which we take the liberty to incloſe, for your Lordſhip's peruſal and approbation. The generoſity which your Lordſhip hath ſhewn to this infant ſociety, forbids us to doubt of your zeal to promote its ſucceſs; we therefore hope that your Lordſhip will be pleaſed to announce its eſtabliſhment in the country, for the benefit of whoſe natives it was firſt inſtituted.

"We have the pleaſure to inform your Lordſhip, that our deſigns are much approved of, and hope before the annual meeting to meet with more eſſential marks of applauſe. A copy of the new articles for the uſe of the ſociety, intended to be propoſed at the next annual meeting, is alſo incloſed; to render thoſe the more perfect, we ſhall be much obliged for any alteration or improvement your Lordſhip ſhall be pleaſed

to

to make. We wait your Lordſhip's commands, and are with the greateſt reſpect and deference,

My Lord, &c."

Norwich, Sept. 25, 1779.

About this time Sir William Jerningham, Bart. of Coſteſey, near Norwich, was informed of the inſtitution of this ſociety, to which he became a benefactor, was propoſed as an aſſociate, and was admitted at the annual meeting enſuing.

Annual Meeting, Nov. 30, 1779.

From the accounts and proceedings of the ſociety now read, it appeared that at the laſt annual meeting, the balance due to the

	l.	s.	d.
Society in the hands of the Steward was — —	53	0	0
2. That the money received ſince, including intereſt, amounts to	61	0	3½
	114	0	3½
3. That the expence of the preſent year has been — —	9	3	2
4. That the balance due to the ſociety is — —	104	17	1½

5. That

5. That ſix objects of charity, natives of North Britain, not belonging to any pariſh in England, nor entitled to relief from any other charity, had been relieved, one of which died, and was buried at the expence of the ſociety.

6 That two objects belonging to the army, entitled to the aſſiſtance of this ſociety, had been in great diſtreſs, and relieved.

7. That three natives of Ireland, alſo entitled to the charity of this ſociety, had been aſſiſted.

In all 11.

At this meeting the ſteward was ordered to ſubſcribe two guineas yearly to the Norfolk and Norwich Hoſpital, in order to enable the ſociety to recommend any object of its charity to be admitted into that hoſpital when needful.

A branch was eſtabliſhed at London, by the name and title of the firſt branch of the Scots Society in Norwich.

A draft of new articles and regulations ſuited to the preſent circumſtances of the ſociety was read, ordered to be reviſed by the firſt quarterly meeting, and afterwards printed.

Mr. John Gurney, the firſt aſſociate of this ſociety, a man of the moſt reſpectable character, having died in the courſe of this year, the ſociety ordered his name to be placed at the head of the commemoration liſt, according to article 49.

The Preſident before he quitted the chair, addreſſed the ſociety according to annual cuſtom, but in a ſpeech of much greater length, on account of the many alterations and improvements made in the courſe of the preſent year, which was afterwards ordered to be printed.

The thanks of the ſociety were unanimouſly voted to the Earl of Roſebery, and thoſe gentlemen, who had conducted the buſineſs of the ſociety during the by-paſt year.

The following elections then took place:

The Right Hon. Earl of Roſebery, Governor.
Sir William Jerningham, Bart. Dep. Governor.
Dr. John Murray, Preſident.
Mr. John Dalrymple, Steward.
Rev. Mr. Arnam, Chaplain.
Mr. Robert Clamroch, Clerk.
Meſſ. Gurney and Co. in Norwich, Bankers.

The uſual diſcretionary order was made, and the meeting concluded with the ſubſcription, which amounted to 13l. 9s. making the ſtock of the ſociety 1181. 8s. 1½d.

At the firſt quarterly meeting Jan. 5, 1780, the regulations for the government read at the annual meeting, and referred to this, were read, approved of, and ordered to be printed.

The ſociety having no houſe or ſervants, to receive and take care of ſuch objects as are entitled

to

to its charity, agreed with the Court of Guardians of the city of Norwich to receive them into the city workhouſes, at the rate of two ſhillings a week each, accordingly two were received in that manner, and treated with great humanity and attention; the ſociety paid for theſe according to agreement, and ordered the thanks of the ſociety to be given to the Court of Guardians, at next meeting.

The Preſident having read the annual addreſs, it was ordered to be reviſed, prepared for the preſs, and printed.

In the addreſs it was propoſed to eſtabliſh a private fund for the uſe of ſuch members or aſſociates, who, by falling into diſtreſs or want, ſhould need charitable aſſiſtance, inſtead of having recourſe to the public fund of the ſociety, according to rule 28, ſince repealed; the ſum of 1s. 4d. collected at this meeting, formed the foundation of that fund, which was depoſited in the hands of the Steward.

At the ſecond quarterly meeting March 21, 1780, the ſociety was informed, that the firſt branch eſtabliſhed, in London at the laſt annual meeting, had met in form.

It was in conſequence ordered, that a regular correſpondence ſhould be eſtabliſhed between the ſociety and its firſt branch.

Several agents reſiding in different parts were nominated, and ordered to be correſponded with.

At

At the fourth quarterly meeting, Sept. 27, 1780, a draft of inſtructions for the agents of the ſociety was read, approved of, and ordered to be printed.

At the annual meeting, Nov. 30, 1780.

The accounts and proceedings of the by-paſt year being read, it appeared,

1. That the balance in favour of the ſociety at the laſt annual meeting was - - £.	104	17	1¼
2. That the receipt of this year, including intereſt, and caſh in the hands of firſt branches -	38	7	6
Total -	143	4	7¼
3. That the expences of this year amount to - -	35	12	3¼
4. That a balance remains to the ſociety of - -	107	12	3½

5. That five natives of North Britain, entitled to the charity of this ſociety, have been relieved, three of whom died, and were buried at the expence of the ſociety, and one ſtill continues in the courſe of relief.

6. That three natives of Ireland, alſo entitled to this charity, have been relieved, two of whom ſtill continue upon the liſt.

7. That

7. That the widow of a native of Ireland had been ſupplied with money to carry her from Norwich to Edinburgh, the place of her nativity, ſhe having of her own or her huſband's right gained no ſettlement in England.

8. That the whole number of thoſe who have been relieved by the ſociety amounts to 15.

The preſident then delivered his addreſs, which being ended, the following elections took place.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Roſebery, governor.

Sir Wm. Jerningham, Bart. deputy-governor.

John Murray, M. D. preſident.

Mr. William Frears, ſteward, in the room of Mr. Dalrymple.

Rev. Mr. Arnam, chaplain.

Mr. Robert Clamrock, clerk.

Meſſrs. Richard, Bartlet, and Joſeph Gurney, bankers.

The following orders and regulations were made at this meeting.

Ordered,

1. That the ſum of 100l. more or leſs, be veſted in the public funds.

2. That members or aſſociates, paying one guinea or more yearly, be authoriſed to act as agents, and relieve objects to the amount of their ſubſcription, according to the rules of the ſociety.

3. That

3. That the private fund, intended for the benefit of members and aſſociates belonging to this ſociety, be under the ſole direction of the governor, deputy-governor, preſident, ſteward, and chaplain of the ſociety, or any three of them, who ſhall be empowered, and are hereby empowered, to relieve members and aſſociates in diſtreſs, in ſuch manner as they, or any three of them, ſhall think proper, without giving any other information to the ſociety at its annual or other meetings, than that ſo much money has been received and diſburſed. The ſociety adopts this method of relieving ſuch perſons, in order to prevent the mortification and inconvenience naturally reſulting, from the public being made acquainted with their neceſſitous circumſtances; therefore delegates ſuch power to the above gentlemen, for the ſpace of one year, having full confidence in their judgment, integrity, impartiality, and humanity.

4. That the preſident and ſteward open a correſpondence with Scotland, and other places, as they ſhall judge neceſſary; and have leave to diſtribute the printed proceedings of the ſociety as they ſhall think proper.

5. That the ſons of members may be admitted members.

6. That the name of the late Capt. John Row be added to the commemoration liſt.

The

The money collected at this meeting for the public fund amounted to £. 22 14 6

The private fund was raiſed to 1 1 9

Ordered,

That the diſcretionary power uſually granted to the governor, deputy governor, preſident and ſteward, be continued.

During the reſt of the year 1780, and the courſe of the year 1781, the buſineſs of the ſociety was carried on with great regularity and good effect; ſeveral benefactions were received, and a greater number of objects were relieved; the Firſt Branch increaſed conſiderably; a gentleman from North America was admitted as a member, e being the ſon of a member, and undertook to attempt to form a branch in that part of the world, notwithſtanding the hoſtile ſtate of the province, in which he reſided, towards Great Britain. A brother of the ſame gentleman was admitted at the ſame time, to whom the preſident read the following addreſs, which was afterwards approved of at the annual meeting, and ordered to be read to every new member and aſſociate, upon their admiſſion.

" Gentlemen,

" The purpoſes of this ſociety, of which you are now admitted members, are, to relieve the needy, friendleſs ſtranger, to give comfort to ſuch in their ſickneſs, to aſſiſt the widow and the fatherleſs in a ſtrange land.

"In affording thoſe helps, the moſt generous ſentiments, the moſt agreeable ſenſations of the human heart are gratified; therefore, while charity, humanity, and brotherly love continue to influence the diſpoſitions of men, it is hoped, that this ſociety will never want a ſufficient number of perſons to carry on its deſigns.

"It is moſt earneſtly recommended to you, and all members and aſſociates of this ſociety, to promote and cultivate moderation, and univerſal benevolence, added to a fervent zeal for the welfare and proſperity of this inſtitution, wherever you or they may reſide."

Nothing further of conſequence occurred in the ſociety, until the

Annual Meeting, Nov. 30, 1781.

When upon examining the accounts of the ſociety, it appeared,

1. That the balance in favour of the ſociety at the laſt annual meeting was - - £. 107 12 3½

2. That the money received in the courſe of this year, including intereſt, the diſcount of a navy bill, and twelve guineas ſubſcribed by the Firſt Branch in London, amounts to - - 69 2 0

Total

Total balance in favour of the ſociety - -	176	14	3½
3. That the expences of the preſent year have been - -	26	9	3
4. That the remaining balance due to the ſociety is -	150	5	0½

5. That eleven objects, natives of North Britain, entitled to the charity of this ſociety, had been relieved, two of whom are ſtill in the courſe of relief.

6. That one object, the widow of a native in Scotland, had been relieved, and aſſiſted with money to carry her to Greenwich Hoſpital.

7. That four objects, natives of Ireland, alſo entitled to the charity of this ſociety, had been relieved; one whereof had died, and was buried at the expence of the ſociety, and two ſtill continue in the courſe of relief.

8. That one object, being a Turk, a native of Conſtantinople, not having any fixed reſidence in England, of courſe entitled to relief from this charity, had been relieved, and aſſiſted with money to purchaſe ſundry articles of hardware, &c. thereby to procure a livelihood for himſelf, his wife, and two young children.

9. The private fund, which laſt year amounted to - -	1	1	9
Had this year increaſed -	1	18	5
Making in the whole	£. 3	0	2

And that no perſon had applied for relief from that part of the charity.

The preſident then delivered an addreſs as uſual.

Several new regulations were propoſed in the addreſs, which were unanimouſly approved of; but being deemed of conſiderable importance, were referred to the conſideration of another meeting.

The following elections took place:

Right Hon. Earl of Roſebery, Governor.
Sir Wm. Jerningham, Bart. Deputy Governor.
Dr. John Murray, Preſident.
Mr. William Frears, Steward.
Rev. Mr. Arnam, Chaplain.
Meſſrs. Richard, Bartlett, and Joſeph Gurney, Bankers
Robert Clamroch, Clerk.

The ſociety next proceeded to ſubſcription, which amounted to 13l. 16s. 6d.

The ſum of 10s. 6d. was collected for the private fund.

Ordered, That the ſubſcription of two guineas be continued to the Norfolk and Norwich Hoſpital.

Ordered, That Mr. John Murray, merchant, in Providence, Rhode-Iſland, North America, and Mr. George William Murray, an officer in his Majeſty's royal navy, (both members of this ſociety) be appointed, and they are hereby appointed

pointed agents of the ſame, and empowered to admit members or aſſociates, and receive ſubſcriptions and benefactions for the uſe of the ſociety, according to the rules and forms thereof, in whatever part of the world they may be.

Ordered, That the private fund, amounting to 3l. 10s. 8d. be under the ſame regulations as laſt year directed.

Annual Meeting, Nov. 30, 1782.

At this meeting it appeared,

1. That the balance belonging to the ſociety at the laſt annual meeting was - - £.	150	5	0½
2. That the money received this year, including the intereſt of a navy bill, and twenty guineas ſubſcribed by the firſt branch in London, amounted to -	86	10	6
	236	15	6½
3. That the expences of the preſent year have been -	74	19	8
4. That a balance remains to the ſociety of - -	161	15	10½

Of which 141l. had been veſted in the funds at 3 per cent.

5. That

5. That 13 objects,* natives of Scotland, entitled to the charity of this ſociety, have been relieved, one of which† is ſtill in the courſe of relief.

6. That one object, the widow of a native of Scotland,‡ has been relieved and aſſiſted with money to carry her to Cornwall, the place of her nativity.

7. That five objects, natives of Ireland,§ have been relieved, two of which‖ ſtill continue in the courſe of relief.

8. That one object, a native of Conſtantinople, ‖* who remained in relief from laſt year, and continued to be relieved in the courſe of this, until by the aſſiſtance of the Rev. Mr. Waldegrave, and other friends at Bury St. Edmund's, he procured employment to maintain himſelf and family in that town, has been relieved.

9. That five objects,§* calling themſelves Americans, and confined in Norwich caſtle, without government or other ſufficient ſubſiſtance, had been relieved; but being ſuſpected to

* Gladſtone 2, Lindſey 7, Wm. Forſyth, Campbell, Murray, Carmichael 2, Erſkine 1, Millar, Maſon, Paton, Ann Mann, Ann Haſty, Mary Forſyth.

† Gladſtone.

‡ Mary Colquhon.

§ Garrick 3, Graham, Dent 1, and Wall.

‖ Garrick and Graham.

‖* Iſmael alias James Baſhar 3.

§* Greehough, Groves, Browne, Romley, Thurkill, and Millar.

to be Britiſh ſubjects, accuſed of piracy, and regarded as impoſtors, were diſcontinued.

10. That three objects, natives of Scotland, and a native of Ireland,* have been relieved by the Firſt Branch in London, to the amount of 15l. 12s. 6d.

11. That the total of all theſe objects amounts to - - - 27

And the wives and children belonging to them, as expreſſed by the figures againſt their names, amounting to - - 14†

Make in all - - 41

12. That the private fund, which laſt year was - - £. 3 2 2

Has this year, by a donation of 20 0 0 from the Earl of Roſebery, and the contributions at the quarterly meetings, amounting to - - 1 1 3

Arrived at the ſum of - 24 3 5

Upon which no perſon has made any claim.

The annual ſubſcription for this year amounted to 17l. 9s.

The amendments and alterations propoſed and agreed to at the laſt annual meeting being approved of, incorporated with the former articles, and printed in the courſe of the preſent year, were ordered to be continued as the ſtanding rules

* Names not ſent.

† Theſe are explained in the Addreſs.

rules of the ſociety, ſubject to ſuch alterations as may hereafter be thought proper.

Several gentlemen, who had been aſſociates four years, were admitted members, according to article 2.

The preſident delivered his addreſs as uſual, and wiſhed to reſign the preſidency, but was unanimouſly requeſted to continue.

The following elections then took place:

The Right Hon. Earl of Roſebery, Governor.
Sir William Jerningham, Bart. Dep. Governor.
Dr. John Murray, Preſident.
Mr. Wm. Newſon, Steward.
Chaplain.
Meſſ. Richard, Bartlet, and Joſeph Gurney, Bankers.
Mr. Robert Clamroch, Clerk.

The office of deputy preſident not being judged needful at preſent, none was elected.

The quarterly and other meetings were ordered as follows:

1ſt	quarterly meeting	Jan. 7, Tueſday
2d		March 25, Tueſday
3d		June 24, Tueſday
4th		Sept. 26, Friday

Previous meeting, Nov. 11, Tueſday.

Annual meeting, Dec. 1, Monday.

Ordered,

Ordered,

That the ſubſcription to the Norfolk and Norwich hoſpital be continued.

That ten ſhillings be allowed by the ſociety at every quarterly and previous meeting, for room, coals, and candles.

That the preſident, ſteward, and chaplain, Mr. B. Gurney, Mr. Dalrymple, and Mr. Suffield, be truſtees for the private fund.

That the name of James Anderſon, one of the firſt and moſt zealous members, and a faithful agent of this ſociety, who died in the courſe of this year, be added to the commemoration liſt.

That the uſual power be granted to the officers of the ſociety.

IDEAS of a CONCERT propoſed in the Preſident's Addreſs at the Annual Meeting in 1781.

IDEA FIRST.

THE perceptions of the mind moſt uſually expreſſed and affected by Muſic, are grief, love, and joy: there is alſo a medium between thoſe, which may be called ſentimental or rational enjoyment; in which the mind is impreſſed with pleaſing ideas, abſtracted, in a great meaſure, from the paſſions.

This may be called Moral Muſic, which is more eaſily felt, than expreſſed or deſcribed.

It has long been a matter of complaint, that the modern Muſic excites no Ideas, but of a tranſitory nature, ariſing from the momentary pleaſure of agreeable ſounds, whereas that of the ancients, as beautifully expreſſed by Dryden, in Alexander's Feaſt, was capable of exciting all the various paſſions of the human breaſt, and carrying them beyond the bounds of reaſon.

No traces of ſuch Muſic are now to be found, whether it be owing to the decay of the art, or to the want of thoſe ſtrong feelings of humanity, with which mankind in general were endowed, in the early ages of the world, or perhaps a combination of both thoſe cauſes.

A ſociety has lately been eſtabliſhed in Norwich, upon the principles of univerſal humanity, towards objects in diſtreſs, belonging to all nations, reſiding in England, for whom the laws thereof have made no proviſion.

This ſociety has ſubſiſted for ſome time, by voluntary annual contributions, benefactions and donations, in the place of its firſt inſtitution, by the name of the Scots Society, has relieved many, and preſerved ſome very uſeful people from ſtarving, in the late and preſent hard times of the decay of trade and manufactures.

For the Benefit of this Society, a Concert of Muſic is propoſed, agreeable to the above-mentioned idea; in which it will be endeavoured, to connect ſenſe with ſound, and form a combination of melody, harmony, and reaſon; that an impreſſion may be made upon the mind, more pleaſing and permanent, than in the general run of Concerts.

To accompliſh this deſign, it is propoſed that this Concert ſhould be divided into three acts.

The

The FIRST act, to conſiſt of the mournful, pathetic, and ſerious.

The SECOND, of the rational, entertaining, and pleaſing. And

The THIRD, of the gay, ſprightly, and chearful.

It is further propoſed, 1ſt. That the Concert ſhould begin with a general Overture, introductory to, and expreſſive of the buſineſs or ſubjects of all the acts in ſucceſſion.

2. That there ſhould alſo be an overture to every ſeparate act, analogous to the ſubject thereof.

3. That the principal merit of the Concert ſhould conſiſt of Songs, claſſed according to the above idea, whoſe former, or late compoſed tunes, perfectly agree with the ſubjects of which they treat, or the ideas conveyed by them to the hearers.

4. That to every ſong there ſhould be a ſuitable ſymphony, and whether ſung by a ſingle voice, in chorus or in parts, care ſhould be taken that the inſtrumental ſhould not obſcure the vocal muſic, or render it unintelligible.

5. That every Song, or piece of vocal Muſic, ſhould conclude with variations, upon ſuch, and ſuch a number of inſtruments, as the muſical Conductor of the Concert ſhall judge proper.

6. That in caſe the exhibition of the laſt act ſhould inſpire the younger part of the audience, with an inclination to dance, a ſuitable proviſion ſhould be made for that purpoſe.

SECOND IDEA.

In all Concerts, a kind or ſpecies of Muſic is introduced under the name of Solo, which, in the Concerts I have attended, ſeems to have no kind of connection with, or reference to the preceding or ſucceeding pieces of Muſic, in the exhibition; but is ſelected according to the vogue or faſhion of the times, or the will of the performer, who, for the moſt part, adopts ſuch airs or pieces, as he knows he can perform beſt, and may ſerve to impreſs the audience with a good opinion of his taſte or execution.

Solos ſhould ſeem, in Muſic, analogous to the Chorus in the ancient Drama, the ſoliloquy of the later ancient, or more modern plays, or epiſodes in poetry, particularly in the Epic Poem, a kind of digreſſion, ſerving to illuſtrate or explain ſome event, perſon or circumſtance related, or to be related in the main body of the piece; ſo that it has, or ought to have, always ſome connection with, and analogy to the whole.—In this view it is propoſed, that the Solos in this Concert ſhould be arranged in the claſſes, to which the words and muſic whereof they conſiſt moſt properly belong.

It is at preſent difficult, if at all poſſible, to fix a proper arrangement for the Concert in queſtion, but the following Songs will ſerve to illuſtrate the deſign, which may give place to others more ſuitable.

FIRST ACT.

Songs. Busk ye, busk ye my bonny bonny bride——Hoſier's Ghoſt—Lady Ann Bothwell's lamentation—Lochaber no more—Broom of the Cowden-knows——Oh Waly, Waly, gin luve be bonny——De'el take the wars that tuke Willy from me—Robin Gray—All in the Downs, &c. &c.

Solos. Gill Morris—The death of Axylus, from Pope's tranſlation of Homer's Iliad, b. 6th.——There's nae luck about the houſe——The dirge on the burying of Paul Whitehead's heart—Buſh aboon Traquair, and the like.

SECOND ACT.

Songs. Tweed Side—Etric Banks—Birks of Indermay—The laſs of Patie's mill—The yellow hair'd laddie—Dear Chloe why thus beyond meaſure—Can love be controlled by advice.

Solos. Early in the morn the ides of May——The ſong on Hawke's victory—Old Anacreon—I'll never leave thee—Women and wine——Old man's with, &c.

THIRD ACT.

Songs. Dumbarton's Drums——Fye, let us a' to the waddin—Gi'e me a laſs and a lump of land—Where ſhall our gude man lye——And the Carle came o'er the croft——Wat ye wha I met yeſtere'en, &c.

Solos. Woo'd and married and a'——Marches, minuets, and Scotch reels, in quick time, and to conclude with a Chorus of Country-dances, in quick ſucceſſion, &c.

AN

ADDRESS

TO THE

GUARDIAN SOCIETY.

LONDON:

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1817.

ARTICLES and REGULATIONS

FOR THE

SCOTS SOCIETY in NORWICH,

TO continue, promote, and cultivate that charity and humanity, which have always formed the diſtinguiſhing character of the Britiſh nation; to aſſiſt and relieve the natives of Scotland and Ireland, the ſubjects of Great Britain, and of all other nations reſiding in England, who from unavoidable misfortunes and accidents have fallen, or may fall, into diſtreſs or want, and are not entitled to relief and aſſiſtance by the laws of that kingdom; the natives of Scotland, and others, reſiding in Norwich and elſewhere, agree to the following ARTICLES and REGULATIONS, for the conduct, management, and government of a ſociety firſt founded in 1775, by the name and title of THE SCOTS SOCIETY IN NORWICH.

1. That this ſociety ſhall conſiſt of members, aſſociates, a governor, deputy governor, a preſident, deputy preſident, ſteward, chaplain, bankers, benefactors, agents, clerk, and meſſenger.

2. The members of this ſociety ſhall conſiſt of natives, the ſons or huſbands of natives of Scotland, or ſuch as have continued in the ſociety as aſſociates for the ſpace of four years or upwards.

3. The natives of all other nations, properly qualified, may be admitted as aſſociates.

4. Every perſon deſiring to become a member or aſſociate of this ſociety, ſhall be propoſed at a meeting, previous to his admiſſion, by ſome member or aſſociate of the ſociety, who is acquainted with, and ſhall be reſponſible for the qualification and character of the party propoſed; but at the annual meetings of the ſociety, any candidate may be propoſed and admitted at the ſame time, according to the rules and cuſtoms thereof.

5. None ſhall be admitted into or diſmiſſed from this ſociety, at any meeting, unleſs by a majority of at leaſt one-third of the members preſent, whoſe votes ſhall be collected by ballot, at the requeſt of any member or aſſociate.

6. All buſineſs of the ſociety ſhall be tranſacted by a majority of votes, when any difference of opinion ſhall ariſe.

7. An annual or general meeting of all the members and aſſociates of this ſociety, who can with convenience attend, ſhall be on the 30th of November every year, unleſs that day ſhall fall on a Sunday, in ſuch caſe the annual meeting ſhall be held on the Monday following.

8. Quarterly, monthly, or other meetings, ſhall be held at ſuch times as ſhall be appointed at the annual meeting, or may afterwards be found needful, for the better conducting the buſineſs of the ſociety, of which due notice ſhall be given to the ſeveral members and aſſociates: at which meetings the chairman ſhall inform the ſociety of its proceedings ſince the laſt meeting, and he, any member, or aſſociate preſent, may make motions or propoſals for the good of the ſociety; of all which proper minutes ſhall be taken by the clerk, or by ſome other perſon in his abſence.

9. At every quarterly or other meeting, except the annual meeting, the minutes of the former meeting ſhall be read, approved, altered, rejected, referred to further conſideration, or to the determination of the annual meeting, as circumſtances may require.

10. A governor and preſident ſhall be elected at the annual meeting from among the members of the ſociety.

11. The deputy governor, deputy preſident, ſteward, chaplain, and clerk, ſhall be elected from among the members or aſſociates, as candidates ſhall offer, or the ſociety think proper.

12. Bankers, agents and meſſenger, may be appointed at the annual or any other meeting, as circumſtances may repuire.

 13. Whenever

13. Whenever the buſineſs of the ſociety ſhall render frequent meetings neceſſary, a council ſhall be appointed by any quarterly meeting, and afterwards at every annual meeting, which ſhall conſiſt of the governor, deputy governor, preſident, deputy preſident, ſteward, and clerk officially, to whom may be added ſuch members, aſſociates, benefactors, or viſitors, as the meeting ſhall think proper, or circumſtances render it neceſſary to ſummon or invite.

14. This council ſhall appoint its own ſubſequent meetings, or refer them again to the ſociety; tranſact the buſineſs of the ſociety, according to the rules thereof, or as circumſtances may require; keep minutes of its proceedings, and report them by the chairman to the next quarterly or other meeting.

15. The agents appointed to tranſact the buſineſs of the ſociety in different places, ſhall keep accounts, act for, and correſpond with the ſociety, according to the rules thereof, and in ſuch form and manner as ſhall be directed by the ſociety from time to time.

16. In caſe of the death or removal of any of the officers of the ſociety, during the courſe of the year, a proper perſon ſhall be elected to fill the vacancy, at the quarterly or other meeting next enſuing, who ſhall act until the next annual meeting.

17. Every member of the ſociety ſhall upon his admiſſion, and at the annual meeting, or as

ſoon

ſoon after as may be convenient, pay or cauſe to be paid to the ſteward, banker, agent, or ſome other proper perſon, ſuch ſum of money for the uſe and benefit of the ſociety as he ſhall think proper; which ſum ſhall be conſidered as his annual ſubſcription, to be continued from year to year, until notice be given to the contrary; every year commencing at the annual meeting.

18. Every aſſociate ſhall at his admiſſion, and at every annual meeting, as in the laſt article, pay or cauſe to be paid, for the uſe and benefit of the ſociety, the ſum of one guinea, or more, as he ſhall think proper; which annual ſubſcription is to be continued after his admiſſion to be a member.

19. Every member or aſſociate, paying at one time ten guineas, for the uſe and benefit of the ſociety, ſhall be deemed and admitted a perpetual member, without paying any further ſubſcription, unleſs he himſelf ſhall think proper.

20. The heir at law of any perſon who ſhall bequeath to the uſe and benefit of the ſociety the ſum of twenty pounds, or upwards, ſhall be admitted as a perpetual member, if eligible; unleſs ſome other perſon is nominated by the will of the deceaſed for that purpoſe.

21. Charitably diſpoſed perſons, who do not chuſe, or are incapable of becoming members or aſſociates of this ſociety, yet are deſirous to promote the various purpoſes thereof, may make

donations

donations or benefactions, or bequeath legacies to it, which being delivered to the ſteward, in ſuch manner as they ſhall think proper, will be thankfully received, reſpectfully acknowledged, and faithfully diſpoſed of, according to the requeſt or direction of the donor, if agreeable to the rules of the ſociety.

22. Every benefactor, paying one guinea, or upwards, a year, ſhall be regarded and admitted as an aſſociate, upon the firſt payment, and during the continuance of ſuch yearly benefaction; ſuch as pay the ſum of five ſhillings and upwards, but leſs than a guinea, to the ſociety yearly, ſhall have the liberty of peruſing and examining the minutes, and inſpecting the accounts of the ſociety twice in the year, namely, between the annual and firſt quarterly meeting, and between the Midſummer and Michaelmas meeting, at ſuch time as may be moſt convenient for the clerk; if, upon ſuch inſpection, any error in the proceedings or accounts, or any defect in the conduct of the ſociety ſhall be found out or obſerved, the inſpector is not only permitted, but earneſtly requeſted, to give proper notice thereof to the governor, or ſome proper perſon belonging to the ſociety, or by letter, directed to the chairman of any of the meetings thereof, that all miſtakes may be corrected, and every improvement made that the circumſtances of the inſtitution require, and will admit of.

23. If

23. If any member or aſſociate of the ſociety, after having paid his ſubſcription regularly, during the ſpace of three years, ſhall become unable to continue his ſubſcription, from any unforeſeen and unavoidable misfortune or diſtreſs, ſuch member or aſſociate ſhall nevertheleſs, at his own option, be continued in the ſociety, during ſuch inability, but is not to be entitled to vote or debate at any of the meetings; if at any future period he becomes able, and ſhall pay to the ſociety the arrears of his ſubſcription, he ſhall return to and reſume his former rank in the ſociety, and be re-admitted to all the advantages and privileges thereof.

24. No diſburſement ſhall be made from the ſtock of the ſociety, for the uſe and benefit of any of the objects entitled to the charity thereof, after the public fund is reduced to the ſum of 100l. ſterling, which ſum ſhall be conſidered as a capital that muſt be always kept in the hands of the ſteward, bankers, or ſome other perſon or perſons appointed for that purpoſe, or veſted in the public funds upon intereſt, in ſuch manner as the annual meeting ſhall direct; for which, and all other ſums, or things of value, entruſted to the care of the ſteward, he ſhall give proper ſecurity to the ſociety, at or ſoon after his appointment to his office.

25. So long as the capital or fund of this ſociety ſhall continue to be upwards of 100l. all the

the ſubjects of Great Britain, the natives and ſubjects of all other nations, reſiding in any part of England, not having gained a pariſh ſettlement, or become entitled to pariſh relief in that kingdom, and not ſufficiently ſupported by any government or other charity, ſhall, in caſe of need, be entitled to relief out of the overplus of the eſtabliſhed fund of the ſociety, according to the rules and cuſtoms thereof, of which ſuch public notice ſhall be given as the ſociety ſhall direct.

26. Whenever the fund of the ſociety ſhall amount to, or exceed the ſum of 200l. fifty pounds ſhall be lodged and conſtantly kept in the hands of an agent, banker, or ſome other proper perſon reſiding in London, for the general uſe of the ſociety, to be employed according to the directions thereof.

27. All draughts or demands whatever upon the agent, or other perſon having money in cuſtody belonging to the ſociety in general, ſhall not be accepted or paid, unleſs ſigned, counterſigned, or indorſed by the governor, deputy governor, preſident or deputy preſident, ſteward, or any two of them.

28. No member, aſſociate, or agent of this ſociety, ſhall advance or diſburſe more than half a guinea to any object entitled to relief and aſſiſtance, without the conſent of three members or aſſociates in writing, whereof the governor, deputy

deputy governor, preſident or deputy preſident, ſhall be one, except in caſe of the death of, and the neceſſity of burying ſuch object at the expence of the ſociety, which allows a ſum not exceeding one pound ten ſhillings for ſuch purpoſe.

29. That the public fund of the ſociety may be applied and confined ſolely to the general and original uſe and purpoſes thereof, it has been thought proper to eſtabliſh a private fund for the aſſiſtance of members and aſſociates, or their families, only in caſe of need; which fund ſhall be under the care and direction of ſix truſtees, to be elected at every annual meeting of the ſociety.

30. If any member or aſſociate, who has been a conſtant ſubſcriber to the ſociety for the ſpace of three years or upwards, ſhall, through unavoidable misfortune or accident, fall into diſtreſs or want, and make proper application for relief to the truſtees of the private fund, or any one of them; and it ſhall appear that the object is worthy, and that his caſe will admit of no delay, the ſaid truſtees, or any three of them, ſhall be empowered to advance a ſum to ſuch perſon or perſons making proper application, not exceeding the ſum of three guineas at one time, out of the private fund, in ſuch manner as they ſhall think proper, without being obliged to inform the ſociety to whom the relief has been

granted

granted, or on whom the charity has been beſtowed. The truſtees are alſo authoriſed to conſult with the friends and relations of the party or parties applying for, or ſtanding in need of relief, or the officers of the pariſh to which he, ſhe or they may belong, and join with others in aſſiſting deſerving objects, who have belonged to the ſociety, or their families.

31. Every perſon who is entitled to, and may require relief or aſſiſtance from the public fund of this ſociety, ſhall apply to the governor, deputy-governor, preſident, deputy-preſident, ſteward, or any agent thereof, and produce a certificate, or other voucher, of his or her being a proper object of the charity, which being found authentic, and judged ſufficient, relief ſhall then be granted, according to the rules of the ſociety.

32. The manner of granting relief to all proper objects ſhall correſpond, as much as circumſtances will permit, with the laws and cuſtoms eſtabliſhed for the relief of the pariſh poor in England, and agreeable to the printed and written inſtructions of the ſociety, given to every member, aſſociate, benefactor and agent thereof.

33. Such as ſtand in need of the aſſiſtance of this ſociety, and by ſickneſs, diſtance, or other unexceptionable reaſon, are unable to appear in perſon, may apply by letter to the governor, deputy-governor, preſident, deputy-preſident, ſteward, or clerk of the ſociety at Norwich, or to

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the agent neareſt to the place of his or her reſidence, and incloſe a proper certificate, ſigned by the miniſter or curate, churchwardens and overſeers of the poor of the pariſh in which ſuch perſon ſhall reſide, or any three of them, the miniſter or curate always being one; or from a juſtice of the peace in the neighbourhood, well acquainted with the perſon or perſons requiring relief.

34. Members or aſſociates, paying one guinea or more yearly to the ſociety, ſhall be authoriſed to act as agents, and allowed to relieve objects to the amount of their ſubſcription, according to the rules and forms of the ſociety.

35. The agents of the ſociety ſhall be empowered to receive ſubſcriptions, benefactions and legacies, for the uſe of the ſociety, and be allowed to diſburſe money according to the rules thereof, obſerving to keep their accounts properly ſtated, according to the forms given to them by the ſociety; which accounts ſhall be ſent, with the original or copies of the vouchers belonging thereto, to the ſteward or clerk, at leaſt fourteen days before the annual meeting.

36. In caſe the ſubſcriptions, benefactions or legacies, received by the agents, or any of them, in the courſe of the year, ſhould not be ſufficient to defray the neceſſary and unavoidable expences incurred by granting relief to proper objects, in the place or diſtrict where they reſide, they ſhall

give

give timely notice of ſuch deficiency, to the ſteward or clerk of the ſociety, one of whom ſhall either order an immediate ſupply to be remitted, or if the fund be reduced to the bounds for granting relief, to direct that an immediate ſtop be put to all diſburſements, until further notice be given; but if the amount of the ſubſcriptions, benefactions or legacies, received by any agent, ſhall exceed the annual expences, the balance ſhall be punctually remitted, together with the accounts and vouchers, and added to the ſtock of the ſociety.

37. Any three or more members or aſſociates of this ſociety, or any agent thereof, properly authoriſed for that purpoſe, reſiding in or near one place at a diſtance from Norwich, who are deſirous more effectually to promote the purpoſes and deſigns thereof, may by the direction, and with the approbation of the ſociety, be conſtituted and appointed a Branch of the ſaid ſociety, under the name and title of, "The firſt, ſecond, &c. Branch of the Scots Society at Norwich," empowered to admit members and aſſociates, elect a deputy-governor and other officers from among their own number, hold meetings of their own appointment, and to do, or cauſe to be done, whatever may be needful, proper and convenient, for their own advantage and intereſt, and thoſe of the whole ſociety, obſerving to keep minutes of their proceedings, accounts of

their

their receipts and diſburſements; of all which, they are to ſend copies or abſtracts, remit balances to, receive directions from, and hold correſpondence with, the original ſociety, in ſuch manner and method as ſhall be found moſt conducive to the good of the whole, or as ſhall be hereafter ſpecified.

38. As ſoon as a ſufficient number of branches are eſtabliſhed, a general yearly meeting ſhall be appointed, conſiſting of deputies from the original ſociety, and all the branches thereof, at ſuch place and time as ſhall be thought moſt proper at the annual meeting, in order to deliberate and determine upon the beſt and moſt proper methods of carrying on the various good deſigns, and humane purpoſes of the ſociety, in different parts of the world.

39. At the general meeting of theſe deputies, the governor, or deputy governor of the original ſociety, ſhall preſide officially, if they chuſe it; in caſe of their abſence, or deſire to be excuſed, the meeting ſhall elect a preſident from their own body, and proceed to buſineſs, according to the uſual method of the ſociety, or as wiſdom and prudence ſhall direct.

40. Whatever the general meeting of deputies ſhall agree to and determine for the good of the whole, ſhall be conſidered as binding to the ſociety at large, and have the full force of a general law, until altered or repealed by a ſubſequent general meeting.

41. Whenever the governor of the Scots Society at Norwich, ſhall think proper to viſit any of the Branches thereof, he ſhall be received and treated with all the reſpect due to his rank and office; and all members and aſſociates of this ſociety, known to be ſuch, ſhall have free admiſſion at all the meetings thereof, whenever or wherever held.

42 Any member or aſſociate of this ſociety, or of any branch thereof, of approved character and behaviour, who intends to remove from the uſual place of his abode, and ſhall requeſt a certificate from the ſociety, the officers of the ſociety, or any three of them, of which the chaplain ſhall be one, ſhall be empowered to grant a certificate in a proper form, which they ſhall ſign, and affix the ſeal of the ſociety thereto.

43. The governor, deputy-governor, preſident, deputy-preſident and ſteward, ſhall preſide and take the chair, according to their rank, at all meetings of the ſociety; but if all thoſe are abſent at any meeting, the company preſent ſhall elect a chairman, who ſhall have the ſame power and authority as any of the ſtanding officers, when in the chair.

44. Every member or aſſociate, who has any propoſal or remark to make for the good of, or concerning the ſociety, ſhall ſpeak ſtanding, and addreſs himſelf to the chair, be heard with attention, and without interruption, unleſs the chairman

man ſhall think proper to call the perſon ſpeaking to order, deſire him to deſiſt or ſtop; in either of which caſes, the chairman ſhall be immediately obeyed.

45. If any three or more members or aſſociates of this ſociety, ſhall be of opinion, that the chairman has abuſed or exceeded the bounds of his authority, or ill treated any individual preſent at any of the meetings thereof, the majority of the meeting may elect another chairman for that buſineſs only, who taking the chair, the late chairman ſhall be required and allowed to enter upon his defence immediately, and be acquitted, cenſured or reprimanded, as the majority ſhall think proper; then reſume the chair, and proceed to buſineſs as uſual.

46. Should it evidently appear to the majority in the courſe of theſe proceedings, that the accuſation and proſecution of the chairman has been owing to private hatred, improper reſentment, or any illiberal or unjuſtifiable motive, the accuſers ſhall, in their turn, be brought to a fair, open, and impartial trial, and ſubmit to ſuch cenſure as the majority ſhall think proper, and by the laws of the ſociety may be inflicted. But, if on ſuch occaſions, any or both of the parties ſhall think themſelves injured, they may appeal to the annual meeting, at which the whole of the proceedings ſhall be reconſidered, and finally determined, in a calm, moderate, impartial, and, if poſſible, in a friendly and peaceable manner, according to the principles of the ſociety.

47. A proper time, previous to the annual meeting, ſhall be appointed, to examine vouchers, audit and balance accounts, make an abſtract of the ſociety's proceedings, and prepare all other matters to be laid before the annual meeting, of which previous meeting due notice ſhall be given by public advertiſement, in ſuch manner as the third quarterly meeting ſhall think proper.

48. At every annual meeting, the governor, deputy governor, preſident, deputy preſident, ſteward or clerk, ſhall read or relate the proceedings of the ſociety during the courſe of the preceding year, or an abſtract thereof, produce a balanced account of its ſtate, income and expences, explain its progreſs, intereſts and views, lay before it all propoſals made, and alterations intended, in a proper manner, that all the members and aſſociates preſent may be made fully acquainted with every thing relative to the ſociety, and have an opportunity of approving, condemning, amending, or rejecting, as may be needful and proper, in free deliberation and cool debate.

49. A commemoration liſt ſhall be made and kept in a proper form, of all the deceaſed members, aſſociates, and benefactors, who have been eminently uſeful to the ſociety, which liſt ſhall be read by the chaplain or clerk at every annual meeting, immediately after or before the election of officers for the enſuing year, as the chairman ſhall direct.

50. Whenever

50. Whenever the governor, or the third quarterly meeting of the ſociety, ſhall be of opinion, that the preaching a public ſermon at the annual or other meeting, may be beneficial to the ſociety, proper notice ſhall be given to the chaplain, or in his abſence, to ſome other clergyman, to prepare a ſermon for that purpoſe, to be preached in the pariſh church of St. Andrew, or ſuch other as the governor or ſociety ſhall direct, or have liberty to make uſe of; for which ſermon the officiating clergyman ſhall be paid the ſum of one guinea.

51. The buſineſs of the preceding year being finiſhed at the annual meeting, the offices of governor, deputy-governor, preſident, deputy-preſident, ſteward, chaplain, clerk, meſſenger and agents, ſhall be vacated ſucceſſively; the ſociety ſhall make a new election of proper perſons for thoſe offices, who ſhall enter upon their reſpective employments and offices immediately, proceed to a freſh ſubſcription, and the other buſineſs of the enſuing year.

52. As this ſociety, by its principles and conſtitution, regards the whole of the human race as one family, and wiſhes to extend the aſſiſtance thereof to every feſlow-creature in diſtreſs, who is not provided for by law, any government or other charity, it is hoped, requeſted and enjoined, that no marks of perſonal party, religious or national prejudices, or any illiberal reflections whatſoever,

may appear in any of its proceedings, amongſt any of its members, aſſociates or benefactors, or at any of its meetings; but that they may at all times, on all occaſions, and in all things, be diſtinguiſhed by diſintereſtedneſs, candour, civility, decency, humanity, meekneſs and friendſhip; that all its members and aſſociates will vie with one another in zeal for the general welfare of mankind, in the love of peace, order, and univerſal good will.

BRITISH MUSEUM 9 NO 72